

# New look for Island Ferry



The Baddeck Lions Club's Island Ferry has a new look. Gone are the wooden deck, the crudely built seats, the plywood storage boxes and the nylon netting hanging from the rail, now replaced by gleaming new aluminum structures. The *John P. Asaph*, shown above with Lion Allen Anderson, the Club's Beach Infrastructure Chairman at the helm, is ready to sail for many more years. This much-needed rebuild cost the club over \$20,000 in addition to the \$30,000 normal operating cost of the Kidston Island swimming program. Replenishing the Club's account is underway and will take several years. This year, "Tis The Season", a community Christmas fundraising dinner, will be hosted by the Inverary Inn Resort and the Baddeck Lions at the MacAulay Conference Centre on Sunday, November 27th.

# Preparing to host ships

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The Port of Baddeck is an official "small port" under the Atlantic Canada Cruise Association program. Under the program, the ACCA promotes the community for smaller cruise ships which must fit under the Seal Island bridge, to visit. This program will take years to bear results as the cruise industry plans so far ahead on schedules, ports of call, itinerary and all.

Mr. Hudson believes "if we can develop our port readiness reputation, and demonstrate our commitment to passengers arriving by bus, this will enhance our likelihood of hosting the smaller cruise ships in the future."

The workshop will take place on Thursday afternoon November 17th and for a good part of Friday the 18th. The session will be led by Beth Kelly Hatt of Aquila Tours in the Court House court-

room.

Aquila Tours is a tour operator who specializes in providing shore excursions to cruise ship passengers. Destination Cape Breton is promoting the workshop for Cheticamp, Louisbourg and Baddeck. Mr. Hudson believes the workshops will help ensure that Baddeck remains the number one tour package for cruise passengers.

Mr. Hudson asks tourism operators and others to attend this session, or have a representative present "in order for us to develop a program that helps the entire industry in our community. We would like to have a program in place for next season and, the more involvement we have from our operators or citizens, the better job we can do."

Mr. Hudson is also asking attendees to think of some unique program ideas which might be discussed.

# Water strategy is essential

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plaster sink holes, makes the island difficult to assess accurately. Monitoring equipment is scarce and human resources to study the affects of the changing climate is inadequate.

Geologist, Dr. John Shaw, looked back at the Bras d'Or Lakes 6,000 years ago when they were still fresh water and landlocked. Over time the lakes filled, the sea broke through, gradually raising the salinity of the water. With the completion of St. Peter's Canal in 1869 and the dredging of Middle Shoal in 1999 much more sea water now flushes through the lakes with significant effects on fish and wildlife habitat. The dredging allows larger tankers to enter the lakes carrying bigger loads. This also spawns problems of more bilge water, possible oil leaks, and pollutants being transferred.

Federal government environmental programs tend to focus on air only, i.e. greenhouse gas emissions. They do not yet think in terms of water. Mr. Sandford believes a National Water Strategy is essential.

As water is an essential resource in all aspects of life, social, economic, and environmental, one of the most crucial ways to adapt to the growing number of negative consequences and the costly feedbacks of climate change is to manage water effectively.

At the Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, ACT has prepared a briefing paper for decision makers. Included in their recommendations are short term goals such as: establish national water conservations guidelines, allocate water to meet nature's needs, design better water supply and waste disposal infrastructures, and provide constant monitoring of water conditions nationally and regionally. Long term goals

call for public education, recognizing water as a basic human right, the importance of groundwater, and creation of a National Water commission.


The Northwest Territories, in partnership with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, released Northern Voices, Northern Waters: The NWT Water Stewardship Strategy which seeks to protect aquatic ecosystems, ensure safe and reliable sources of water for the residents of the NWT and sustain traditional ways of life in the north, an excellent model for other provinces to follow.

This conference was hosted by the Pitu'paq Partnership formed of the five municipal units and the five Mi'kmaq communities of Unama'ki (Cape Breton). Pitu'paq is the Mi'kmaq word for Bras d'Or Lakes meaning "to which all things flow".

Visit [www.sfu.ca/act](http://www.sfu.ca/act), [www.uinr.ca](http://www.uinr.ca); [www.pitupaq.ca](http://www.pitupaq.ca); [www.bibra.ca](http://www.bibra.ca) and [www.enr.gov.nt.ca](http://www.enr.gov.nt.ca).

**CLOCKS TO GO BACK**

Clocks will be set BACK one hour, Sunday, November 6th.



The switch from Daylight Saving to Standard takes place at 2 a.m. Sunday

**"Pride in the Past  
Faith in the Future"**



**REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES**



**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
BRANCH 53 BADDECK**



**9:30 am** Church Service at Knox Presbyterian Church in Baddeck

**10:30 am** Parade to Legion Cenotaph

**11:00 am** 2-minute Silence, Placing of Wreaths followed by refreshments in Legion Hall

**2:00 pm** Service at Farquharson Church and Laying of Wreaths in Middle River

**1:00-4:00 pm** Entertainment with Michelle Stephens

**5:45 pm** Roast Beef Dinner at the Legion  
\$10.00 per person - Tickets Available at the Legion

*Guest Speaker*  
**Lt. Col. John McEachern**  
Commanding Officer Cape Breton Highlanders

*Visitors are welcome to drop in at the Legion throughout the day*

**Please Join Us and Respect Our Veterans...Lest We Forget!**


THE LEGION WILL BE OPEN NOVEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>  
FROM 1:00 TO 5:00 PM FOR PURCHASE OF WREATHS




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